

# MASS MoCA

## MASS MoCA announces 2021 Summer Season featuring Julianna Barwick and Mary Lattimore, James Turrell's Skyspace, Bang on a Can, and more

Concert and dance performances, new exhibitions, and multidisciplinary festivals including Time of Now and Community Day

**North Adams, MA, May 17, 2021** — MASS MoCA announces its 2021 Summer Season with the opening of two new installations on May 29 – **Shaun Leonardo's** *You walk...* and **James Turrell's** *C.A.V.U.* (Skyspace) – and a kickoff concert featuring vocalist **Julianna Barwick** and harpist **Mary Lattimore**. **Time of Now** returns on June 26, with a full day of in-person and virtual events exploring the relationship between individual memory and collective history. **Community Day** on July 17 features free museum admission for Berkshire residents and celebrates the opening of Wes Bruce's traveling artmobile, **The Drifting Studio**. MASS MoCA favorites **Bang on a Can** return for their annual LOUD Weekend July 30-31, with an all-star lineup of special guests.

Additional live performances include a multimedia work-in-progress from photographer **Alec Soth** and **David King** (The Bad Plus) and new music from Brookly-based songwriter and producer **L'Rain**.

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free with museum admission. Timed entry reservations are required. Beginning May 29, MASS MoCA will be open every day, 10am – 6pm, through October 14. Event schedules and additional programming will be posted on [www.massmoca.org](http://www.massmoca.org).

### **2021 SUMMER SEASON EVENTS (additional programming to be announced)**

#### **Summer Openings and Kickoff Concert | May 29**

A celebration of the summer season and the opening of new installations by Shaun Leonardo (*You walk...*) and James Turrell (*C.A.V.U.*), as well as current exhibitions by Blane De St. Croix, Glenn Kaino, Richard Nielsen, Wendy Red Star, and Gamaliel Rodríguez, and the group exhibitions *Close to You*, *"How does your horn sound?"*, and *Kissing through a Curtain*. Featuring an outdoor evening performance by two young luminaries working at the intersection of ambient and electronic music – vocalist Julianna Barwick and harpist Mary Lattimore. A new summer pop-up eatery – Chama Mama – will serve Georgian food and drink in the courtyard, along with Lickety Split, Tunnel City Coffee, Bright Ideas Brewing, and A-OK Berkshire Barbeque.

Concert tickets start at \$35, on sale May 19.

#### **Auditory After Hours | June 5, 12 & 19 at 7pm, 7:30pm, & 8pm**

Auditory After Hours gives visitors a chance to engage with art while listening to a bespoke experience curated by an inspired musician. For this local hero-themed Auditory After Hours, four members of the North Adams-based creative community Common Folk — producer Dan O'Connell, indie rocker Ciarra

Fragale, singer-songwriter Melanie Glenn, and electro-experimentalist Wallasauce — collaborate to create a one-of-a-kind soundtrack for the museum's galleries.

Tickets start at \$18, on sale May 19.

### **Shaun Leonardo's *You walk...* | June 19**

Artist Shaun Leonardo, in collaboration with community members, leads a series of interactive activities throughout the day in *You walk...*, in honor of Juneteenth.

*Major support for You Walk... is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts. Related programming is made possible in part by the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation's Arts Build Community initiative.*

### **Passion Fruit Dance Company | June 19**

What is the groove and how do you find it? In *Dance Within Your Dance*, choreographer Tatiana Desardouin invites the audience to connect with the techniques, rhythms, and essence of hip-hop and house dance styles. Not just a simple aesthetic, "the groove" is the soul of street and club dance. A coalescing of community, fashion, training, introspection, liberation, and individual journeys, in this outdoor pop-up performance Passion Fruit explores how the groove can be a roadmap to social justice through the physical expression of Black culture.

### **Alec Soth & David King: *The Palms* | June 25 & 26 at 8pm**

Photographer Alec Soth — "a celebrated chronicler of American contemporary life" (*The Guardian*) — collaborates for the first time with drummer/composer Dave King of the jazz duo The Bad Plus, who is "better than anyone at mixing the sensibilities of post-'60s jazz and indie rock" (*The New York Times*). The result is a new multimedia work-in-progress performance that delves into the physicality of memory that's been lost in the digital age.

*The Palms was commissioned by The Great Northern with support from Weinstein Hammons Gallery, Dr. Tom von Sternberg, and Eve Parker.*

Tickets start at \$25, on sale May 19.

### **Time of Now: History + Memory | June 26**

This in-person and virtual event explores the relationship between individual memory and collective history, and how the past continues to shape our present reality. Pop-up performances, activities, in-person and virtual talks, and self-guided tours will bring together a group of thinkers, performers, and artists for public events throughout the museum. Featuring programming from Osman Khan, Jimena Sarno and Axel Krygier, Blane De St Croix, and the inaugural performance in Taryn Simon's *The Pipes*, in celebration of the installation's opening.

### **L'Rain | July 3 at 9pm**

Brooklyn-based experimentalist L'Rain brings an ethos of experimentation to her richly layered compositions. On her upcoming album, *Fatigue* (June 25, Mexican Summer), Cheek's collages of personal experiences are guided by genres that stretch from post-punk to free jazz to R&B and beyond. It demands introspection from ready ears with an array of keyboards, synths, and hauntingly delicate vocals that create a genre entirely her own, and through it she is mapping the enormity of how to change. This performance concludes her week-long artist residency at MASS MoCA.

Tickets start at \$25, on sale May 19.

### **Community Day | July 17**

A celebration of community and the museum's mission – instilled by our founding director Joe Thompson – to champion artists and art-making in all forms. Featuring the opening of Wes Bruce's travelling artmaking mobile The Drifting Studio, pop-up music performances, CARE SYLLABUS programming, and activities for all ages. Free admission for Berkshire residents.

*Free admission for Berkshire residents is made possible in part by MountainOne.*

*Support for Community Day at MASS MoCA is provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation's Arts Build Community initiative.*

### **Bang on a Can: LOUD WEEKEND | July 30 & 31**

A two-day festival of genre-bending sound featuring dozens of composers and performers, the electric Bang on a Can All-Stars Michael Gordon, David Lang, and Julia Wolfe, and special guests.

Tickets on sale in June.

### **EXHIBITIONS ON VIEW**

#### **Taryn Simon, *The Pipes***

The eleven structures that make up this large-scale outdoor sculpture – which Simon designed in collaboration with Shohei Shigematsu of architecture firm OMA – are an immersive experience, offered to the public as a space for reflection, impromptu performance and play, and stargazing.  
(Opening June 26)

*The installation of Taryn Simon's The Pipes at MASS MoCA is made possible in part by the Michael G. and C. Jane Wilson 2007 Trust, Gagosian Gallery, Fundación Almine y Bernard Ruiz-Picasso para el Arte, and David Zicarelli and Virginia Troyer.*

#### **James Turrell, *C.A.V.U. (Skyspace)***

Turrell has transformed a monumental water tank into one of his signature installations, immersing visitors in light and color and framing a small section of sky as an ever-changing canvas with infinite depth.  
(Opening May 29)

*C.A.V.U. is made possible by the support of an anonymous donor.*

#### **Shaun Leonardo, *You walk...***

Translating his performance practice into a participatory installation, Shaun Leonardo invites us to consider how we process and embody space, ideas, and connectivity.  
(Opening May 29)

*Major support for You Walk... is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts. Related programming is made possible in part by the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation's Arts Build Community initiative.*

#### **Glenn Kaino, *In the Light of a Shadow***

Inspired by the connection between protests across the globe, this immersive installation explores the power of collective action in forging a more just world.

*Generous support for In the Light of a Shadow is provided by Nicole Deller and Matthew Bliwise, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Director's Advisory Council of MASS MoCA. Additional support is provided by Parsons Audio LLC and Genelec INC and by Crystalle Lacouture and Scott Stedman.*

### **Close To You**

A group exhibition that gathers the work of six artists who probe the capacity of the visual arts to conjure feelings of closeness – both to others and to ourselves.

*Close to You is made possible by the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute in support of MASS MoCA and the Williams College Graduate Program in the History of Art.*

### **Richard Neilsen, *This is Not a Gag***

In March 2020, Los Angeles-based artist Richard Nielsen began painting portraits of people in their COVID-19 face masks. His expressive paintings illuminate the fiercest and finest parts of human nature.

### **Blane De St Croix, *How to Move a Landscape***

De St Croix's largest and most ambitious exhibition to date explores the geopolitical landscape and environmental issues through research-driven drawings, sculptures, and large-scale installations.

*Major support for How to Move a Landscape is provided by Scott and Ellen Hand with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts. Catalog support is provided in part by the Joan Mitchell Foundation.*

*The artist would also like to thank the following for their support of this exhibition: The Brian Wall Foundation, The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, The New York Foundation for the Arts, The Efroymsen Family Fund, The Puffin Foundation, The Smithsonian Institute (SARF), Dieu Donn e, The Foundation for Contemporary Art, and PolyQuest, Inc.*

### **Kissing Through a Curtain**

The ten contemporary artists in this exhibition address boundaries, and attempts to communicate across them: translations not only between different languages, but also between nations, cultures, media, bodies, and individual minds.

*Major support for Kissing through a Curtain is provided by the Artist's Resource Trust (A.R.T.) Fund, a fund of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. SAHA provided production support for Aslı  avu ođlu.*

### **Wendy Red Star, *Aps alooke: Children of the Large-Beaked Bird***

Multi-media artist Wendy Red Star, a member of the Aps alooke (Crow) tribe, offers accounts of American history that rectify the frequently flawed narratives about Native people. Red Star's annotated portraits of the historic 1880 Crow Peace Delegation, which brought leaders to meet with U.S. officials for land rights negotiations, brings the portraits to life and reclaims Red Star's ancestors.

*Major support for Aps alooke: Children of the Large-Beaked Bird is provided by the W.L.S. Spencer Foundation, The Willow Tree Fund, National Endowment for the Arts, and Mass Cultural Council.*

**Gamaliel Rodriguez, *Figure 1839: La travesía / Le voyage***

A 60-foot ink drawing designed for the Hunter lobby reimagines the repurposed museum buildings as a ship forging its way through a sea of overgrown vegetation, conflating both the natural and industrial landscapes of North Adams and his Puerto Rican home.

*Programming at MASS MoCA is made possible in part by the Barr Foundation, Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, and Mass Cultural Council.*

**About MASS MoCA**

MASS MoCA is one of the world's liveliest centers for making and enjoying today's most evocative art. With vast galleries and a stunning collection of indoor and outdoor performing arts venues, MASS MoCA is able to embrace all forms of art: music, sculpture, dance, film, painting, photography, theater, and new, boundary-crossing works of art that defy easy classification. Much of the work we show in our light-filled spaces, on our technically sophisticated stages, and within our lovely network of late 19th-century courtyards is made here during extended fabrication and rehearsal residencies that bring hundreds of the world's most brilliant and innovative artists to North Adams all year round. For more information about MASS MoCA, visit [www.massmoca.org](http://www.massmoca.org).

\*\*\*

**For more information, please contact:**

Christian Barclay  
Communications Manager, MASS MoCA  
[cbarclay@massmoca.org](mailto:cbarclay@massmoca.org)